

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



May 26, 2015

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

SUBJECT: Antlerless Deer License Discounts in Chronic Wasting Disease

Management Zone and Core Area

Authority:

The fee for an antlerless deer license is established in Part 435, Hunting and Fishing Licensing, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.43527a, as \$20 for a resident and \$20 for the first antlerless deer license purchased by a nonresident. The fee for an additional nonresident antlerless deer license is \$170. The application fee for antlerless deer hunting licenses may not exceed \$5. The fees for hunting and fishing licenses may be discounted by the Department in accordance with Section 43521 of Part 435. The Department is authorized to discount licenses to achieve a harvest or management objective for that species.

Discussion and Background:

On May 20, 2015, the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, positively confirmed chronic wasting disease (CWD) in a free-ranging deer from Ingham County. This confirmation results in the need for additional tools to facilitate increased samples of free-ranging white-tailed deer for CWD testing.

The Department recommends discounting antlerless deer license fees by 40 percent and, therefore, establishing the fee of \$12 for a resident antlerless deer license and \$12 for the first antlerless deer license purchased by a nonresident, for deer management units (DMUs) 019 (Clinton County), 033 (Ingham County), 078 (Shiawassee County) and 333 (Core CWD Area). In addition, the Department recommends a reduced fee of \$12 for any additional antlerless deer licenses purchased by a nonresident in these DMUs to increase deer harvest and population sampling.

These DMUs make up the CWD Management Zone and Core CWD Area and are being used to implement protocols set forth in the Michigan Surveillance and Response Plan for CWD of Free-Ranging and Privately-Owned Cervids.

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Recommendation:

We recommend the fee for antlerless deer licenses be discounted as described in the Discussion and Background above.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief Wildlife Division

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Forest Resources Division

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Parks and Recreation Division

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Marketing and Outreach Division

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Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendation with an effective date of May 26, 2015.

for B.O.